

Remarks

Claims 1-23 are currently pending in this application. By this response, applicants amend claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 12-14 and 16-23. All claims are before the Examiner for consideration.

Claims 1-23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The claims recited “feeding/conditioning means.” The claims now recite “feeding and conditioning means.” The term describes feeders used to condition bees to forage for the target odor. The feeders concurrently present food and the target odor to the bees associating food with the target. In the search area these feeders maintain bee conditioning presenting food with the target odor and can additionally include controllers to create periods of starvation to encourage bees to forage for the target odor. The subject response further amends the claims to replace the term “bulk feeders” with the term “feeding and conditioning means.” As noted in paragraph [0016] the feeding system used in the search area should be the same as the feeding system used in the staging area. The claims have been further amended to address informalities kindly recognized by the Examiner. Claim 3 has been amended to present antecedent basis for the term “the marking.” In view of the foregoing amendments to the claims, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

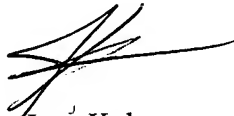
The drawings have been rejected to for failing to show a programmable timer, an overflow feedback unit and a pump of the automated feeding controller delivery means. Applicants submit a proposed new drawing of FIG. 2 which shows these three features. No new matter has been added in the proposed drawing.

The specification was objected to for several informalities. The specification has been amended to address these informalities. Applicants provide a substitute abstract which they believe addresses the concerns of the Examiner. The drawings were objected to for not containing an item designated “32.” Reference numeral 32 has been deleted from the text of the specification. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that all claims would be allowable upon addressing the cited informalities. In view of the foregoing remarks and the amendments to the claims, applicants believe that the claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment: proposed drawing correction of FIG. 2



Annotated Marked-up Drawing

FIG. 2

